

the public through the cap and trade system makes businesses pull back on any new investments for the fear of the unknown costs they will face. A stable economy with no surprises looming in the future will give confidence to businesses, and they are the true economic engines of our country. Tax relief promises more capital in the hands of those who invest in the future.

At the time of the stimulus vote, Republicans wanted more funds put into highway construction and Army Corps projects, but that didn't happen. The President has acknowledged that jobs are a problem by holding a jobs summit just this last week. He knows that more than 15 million Americans are looking for work. Let's hope he chooses a new and better path.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 41 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LARSEN of Washington) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: The first touch of snow startled Washington as Your soft whisper of winter upon us, Lord. Not enough to stall the driving force in the Nation's Capital, it melts like political words on the air; yet penetrates the grounding of all future plans.

Lord, this thin white curtain fell on our scene, a seeming call for purification of intentions. Quite unsure if we are ready to be fully clothed with Your victory of total transformation, we beg for more time as if it were not already given freely.

Send us more gentle snow, Lord, if it will awaken within us the hidden child who accepts Your surprising sky with a quiet smile. Brighten our shortened days, Lord, that we may take delight again in Your creation and prepare to celebrate the approaching day of Your visitation, when You embraced all our limitations and kept loving us anyway. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SMITH of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

HARVARD MED DEAN FAILS HEALTH CARE BILL

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, here is what Jeffrey Flier, dean of Harvard Medical School, has to say about the administration's health care bill: "... The people who favor the legislation are engaged in collective denial.

"Speeches and news reports can lead you to believe that proposed congressional legislation would tackle the problems of cost, access and quality. But that's not true.

"... There are no provisions to substantially control the growth of costs or raise the quality of care. So the overall effort will fail to qualify as reform.

"Whatever its shape, the final legislation that will emerge from Congress will markedly accelerate national health care spending rather than restrain it... The legislation would do little or nothing to improve quality or change health care's dysfunctional delivery system.

"Worse, currently proposed Federal legislation would undermine any potential for real innovation in insurance and the provision of care."

Dean Flier has good advice: Congress should start over and do it right.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

RECOGNIZING ECHO COMPANY OF 100TH BATTALION OF THE 442D INFANTRY

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 199) recognizing the 10th Anniversary of the activation of Echo Company of the 100th Battalion of the 442d Infantry, and the sacrifice of the soldiers and families in support of the United States, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 199

Whereas Company E, 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment of the United States Army was redesignated on February 16, 1999, on the islands of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, Guam and protects the citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam;

Whereas the soldiers of Company E and their families are active community volunteers supporting the local community and participating in community events;

Whereas Company E has served with great honor and distinction for two tours in Iraq in 2004–2006 and 2008–2009;

Whereas Army Staff Sergeant Wilgene T. Lieto, Army SPC Derence W. Jack, and Army Sergeant Julian F. Manglona of Company E made the ultimate sacrifice for the United States while they served in Iraq; and

Whereas Company E commemorates one of the original companies of the 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment, which served with distinction during World War II, and continues to live by its motto "Go For Broke": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the valuable, historic, and continued contribution of Company E, 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment of the United States Army to the citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the United States;

(2) commends the efforts and contributions of the soldiers and sacrifices of the families of Company E, 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment to the United States;

(3) recognizes and reaffirms the commitment of Congress to support the mission of Company E, 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment; and

(4) honors the lives of the soldiers of Company E, 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment who made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of the United States.

Amend the title so as to read: "Concurrent resolution Recognizing the 10th Anniversary of the redesignation of Company E, 100th Battalion, 442d Infantry Regiment of the United States Army and the sacrifice of the soldiers of Company E and their families in support of the United States."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of House Concurrent Resolution 199, introduced by my colleague, Congressman SABLON, from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

House Concurrent Resolution 199 recognizes the valuable contributions of

Company E, 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment of the United States Army.

Not many know that the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment remains the only combat unit in the Army Reserve. In fact, Echo Company of the 100th Battalion was redesignated on February 16, 1999, on the islands of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam.

As the representative from Guam, I appreciate the opportunity to recognize and commend these soldiers for their outstanding and important service to our Nation.

So today I join my colleague in recognizing the 10th anniversary of the activation of Echo Company and commend the men and women who serve in Echo Company and their families for their dedication and their sacrifice.

During the Second World War, the 100th Battalion, known as “one-puka-puka” was comprised principally of Japanese Americans from Hawaii. The battalion subsequently became a part of the 442nd Infantry Combat Regiment comprised of Japanese Americans who had parents, siblings, and relatives, and many who themselves had been forcibly removed from their homes and communities and sent to internment camps in the United States.

These highly decorated individuals distinguished themselves on the battlefields of Europe; and today those who volunteer to serve in Echo Company continue to serve with distinction on today's battlefields.

Echo Company has served two tours in Iraq in 2004 through 2006 and, again, in 2008 through this year. In fact, on my most recent trip to Iraq, I had the opportunity to meet with men and women of Echo Company who were performing security operations. I appreciated the opportunity to meet with these men and women in uniform and to recognize their service in the theater of operations.

Unfortunately, three members of Echo Company have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our Nation: Staff Sergeant Wilgene T. Lieto, Specialist Derence W. Jack, and Sergeant Julian F. Manglona. Our hearts and prayers are with their families and loved ones and those who they left behind.

The motto of the 100th Battalion is “Go for broke,” which continues unabated. Today, we commend Echo Company on their 10th anniversary, and I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the service of these fine men and women who have volunteered to defend our Nation, and to support House Concurrent Resolution 199.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 199, which recognizes the service and sacrifices of Echo Company of the 100th Infantry Battalion. I want to thank Delegate GREGORIO SABLAN for supporting it.

Ten years ago, Echo Company was redesignated on the island of Saipan,

Tinian, Rota, and Guam and now serves to protect the citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam. Since that time, it has served two tours in Iraq, suffering the loss of two of its men. It continues to support the people and communities of the Northern Marianas and stands ready to serve America.

Echo Company carries on the traditions of World War II predecessors in the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment and continues to live by its motto, “Go for broke.”

This resolution honors the soldiers of the unit and the families who support them. I urge Members to vote “yes” on this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to my friend and colleague and the sponsor of this resolution, the gentleman from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN).

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, our Nation can never say “thank you” too frequently to the men and women who put their own lives at risk in military service. So I rise today as the sponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 199 thanking the men and women of Company E, 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment for their service, their dedication, and their sacrifice.

I ask that the House adopt House Concurrent Resolution 199 honoring Company E—Echo Company, as we call it in the Northern Mariana Islands—in this year, the 10th anniversary of this distinguished band of soldiers. This year also marks the completion of Echo Company's second tour of duty in Iraq where they have distinguished themselves for their fortitude and bravery, always living up to the company motto, “Go for broke.”

I appreciate the support of the distinguished gentlelady from Guam and the other 25 members of the House Armed Services Committee who are cosponsors of House Concurrent Resolution 199. I also want to thank the additional 29 Members of this House from both sides of the aisle, including my good friend, the distinguished gentleman from Florida, who stepped up to say “thank you” to Echo Company.

Most of all, I want to thank Chairman SKELTON and Ranking Member MCKEON for their leadership and their commitment to our men and women in uniform and for working with me to bring this resolution to the floor today.

As the first person to have the honor to represent the people of the Northern Mariana Islands here in Congress, one of my duties, I believe, is to educate this House about the people I represent. One distinguishing trait of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands is our devotion to the United States of America. We're unique, I believe, in modern times to have chosen as a society to become a permanent part of the United States. We could have become an independent nation, but instead, we chose to be part of this Nation.

Perhaps nothing exemplifies our commitment to serve our new Nation

more than our participation in military service. Thirty percent of our graduating class from our public high schools enlisted in military service this year. And obviously, of course, with this out-of-proportion participation in our military, there is an out-of-proportion level of risk. Our community, our small community of some 65,000 people, has suffered the loss of 12 of our people in military service since the commencement of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. This is certainly one of the highest per capita rates of death in service of any community in our Nation.

I would like to read their names and honor them today: Army Sergeant Yihjya “Eddie” L. Chen; Army Sergeant Jesse J. Castro; Marine Lance Corporal Adam Q. Emul; Army Specialist Leeroy A. Camacho; Army Private First Class John D. Flores; Army Private First Class Victor M. Fontanilla; Army Specialist Joe G. Charfauros, Jr.; Navy Seaman Anamarie San Nicholas Camacho; Senior Airman Audra P.M. Winkfield; and, finally, the three members of Echo Company who gave their lives in combat for their country: Army Staff Sergeant Wilgene T. Lieto, Army Specialist Derence W. Jack, and Army Staff Sergeant Julian F. Manglona.

□ 1215

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to say that by honoring specific individuals or a specific unit of the military, we in no way are forgetting all the men and women from communities all across our Nation who serve in the armed services. There are, in fact, many people from the Northern Mariana Islands who are not members of Echo Company in service throughout the world today. My prayers go out to them today and my thanks.

But Echo Company is the only unit from the Northern Mariana Islands composed solely of people from the Northern Mariana Islands and a platoon from Guam. So as the Representative of the Northern Mariana Islands and especially because this is the 10th anniversary of Echo Company in the Northern Mariana Islands, it is my honor and responsibility to take the floor and say “thank you.”

Mr. Speaker, I also want to recognize and am honored to have Representative and Senator-elect Ralph Torres of the Northern Mariana Legislature in the gallery today. Mr. Torres is here to join me in paying respect to our troops.

I would like to submit this letter of support from Representative and Senator-elect Ralph M. Torres into the RECORD.

SAIPAN, MP,
December 5, 2009.

Hon. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE SABLAN: I am proud and honored to write this letter of support for H. Con. Res. 199, the concurrent congressional resolution recognizing the outstanding efforts of Company E, 100th Battalion, 442 Infantry Regiment for their second deployment to Iraq; and to recognize

their 10th Anniversary of being located on the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

As a current Representative and Senator-Elect in the CNMI Legislature, I appreciate your efforts to honor the dedication of our troops, and for recognizing the commitment and challenges the spouses and families face when their loved ones are deployed.

Company E not only preserves our freedoms, but is a valuable part of our community. They participate in many community events, such as every July 4th as part of Island Liberation Day, provide all funeral details on the CNMI and participate in the Go for Broke baseball and canoeing teams.

Go for Broke is the motto of Company E, and they live that way in all they do and I am proud to support H. Con. Res. 199.

Sincerely,

RALPH TORRES,
Representative and Senator-Elect.

Godspeed to Company E, to all our men and women for your sacrifice and for all that you have done for our people and for the United States of America.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 199, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMENDING THE SOLDIERS AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL STATIONED AT FORT GORDON

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 206) commending the soldiers and civilian personnel stationed at Fort Gordon and their families for their service and dedication to the United States and recognizing the contributions of Fort Gordon to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom and its role as a pivotal communications training installation, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 206

Whereas in 1940, in preparation for possible involvement in World War II, the United States Army identified a site near Augusta, Georgia, that was suitable for division-level training, and the War Department entered into a \$22 million contract to construct the new installation;

Whereas, at the groundbreaking ceremony on October 18, 1941, the new installation was named Camp Gordon in memory of John B. Gordon, a general in the Civil War and former Georgia Governor;

Whereas during World War II, Camp Gordon was home to three Army divisions, namely the 4th Infantry Division, the 26th Infantry Division, and the 10th Armored Division until they were deployed to Europe, where all three served with distinction;

Whereas after the war, on November 1, 1948, Camp Gordon began its signal corps tradition by becoming the home of the Signal Corps Training Center;

Whereas by 1950, the need for signalmen for the Army during the Korean War led to a major expansion of the Signal Corps Training Center, making it the largest single source of Army communications specialists;

Whereas, on March 21, 1956, Camp Gordon was made a permanent installation and renamed Fort Gordon;

Whereas the military conflicts in Southeast Asia in the 1960s and 1970s, together with advances in communications-electronics (C-E) technology, placed heavy training demands on Fort Gordon;

Whereas at the height of the Vietnam War, the Signal Corps Training Center was renamed the Southeastern Signal School and became the primary source of personnel for tactical C-E units in Vietnam;

Whereas in September 1965, the Southeastern Signal School activated the Signal Officer Candidate School, from which more than 2,000 officers graduated by February 1968;

Whereas in the post-Vietnam era, as the Army reorganized and modernized, signal training at Fort Gordon progressed to keep pace with rapid technological advances on the modern battlefield, and the Southeastern Signal School was renamed first as the United States Army Signal School and subsequently the United States Army Signal Center at Fort Gordon;

Whereas in June 1986, the United States Army Signal Corp Regiment was established, and Fort Gordon was designated as the regimental home base;

Whereas the Signal Center's efforts included the development of Mobile Subscriber Equipment, the Army's communications architecture and assuming the lead for the Army's Information Mission Area, which included the integration of automation, communications, visual information, records management, and publications and printing;

Whereas in 1990 and 1991, the Signal Center played a vital role in preparing soldiers for deployment during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm;

Whereas in the 1990s, Fort Gordon became the home for training most of the personnel within the Department of Defense who operate and maintain satellites and continued to train signal troops of allied and foreign countries;

Whereas Fort Gordon continues to serve as a power projection base for several Signal units responsible for conducting operations overseas;

Whereas approximately 19,000 soldiers are stationed at Fort Gordon, and many of these soldiers have been deployed in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom multiple times; and

Whereas the strength and unwavering support of the soldiers and their families of Fort Gordon and the entire Augusta community have contributed to making the United States a safe and secure country: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes Fort Gordon as the home of the United States Army Signal Corps on the

occasion of the 60th anniversary of Fort Gordon serving as the home of the Signal Corps Training Center;

(2) commends the soldiers, their families, and the civilian personnel at Fort Gordon for their service and dedication to the United States; and

(3) recognizes the contributions of Fort Gordon to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROONEY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support House Concurrent Resolution 206, commending the dedication of soldiers, civilian personnel, and families stationed at Fort Gordon, Georgia, and recognizing the 60th anniversary of Fort Gordon as the vital training center of the United States Army Signal Corps.

Fort Gordon has a long and storied history of preparing our soldiers to effectively utilize technological advances on the battlefield. Now, Fort Gordon is training our soldiers in the advanced communication technologies needed to execute missions in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

I also want to commend the civilian personnel at Fort Gordon who are key members of the United States Army Signal Corps team and whose hard work and dedication to the mission are critical to the United States Army's success. To be the best, we need soldiers and civilians working together.

And finally, I want to express my gratitude to the families stationed at Fort Gordon. While their loved ones train for long hours and deploy overseas for extended periods of time, the families remain supportive and steadfast, understanding the sacrifice that comes from keeping the United States safe and secure. I also commend the entire Augusta, Georgia, community who rally around the great men and women of Fort Gordon.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague, Mr. BROUN of the State of Georgia, for his work in bringing this resolution to the floor, and I ask all my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 206.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 206, which commends the soldiers, civilian personnel, and their families stationed